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ABSTRACT

This factbook presents statistical data and examines trends for 10 indicators of children's well-being in Georgia. The indicators are: (1) low birthweight infants; (2) infant mortality; (3) death rate of children ages 1 to 14 years; (4) kindergarten retention; (5) violent death rate of teenagers aged 15 to 19 years; (6) juvenile arrests; (7) youth completing high school; (8) birthrates to teenagers aged 15 to 19 years; (9) family at risk index, defined as the percent of first births to mothers who are less than 20 years old, unmarried, or have not completed high school; and (10) rate of child abuse and neglect. Section 1 of the report, "The Challenge: Indicators of Child and Family Well-Being," defines the indicators, the magnitude of the problem, and risk factors or additional information, and presents graphic data for each of the indicators by race, the rank for the state as a whole, and the percent of change from the early and mid 1990s. Section 2 of the report, "The Change: Models for Action," highlights several programs implemented to improve outcomes for children, including a volunteer-based truancy intervention program and a unique public-private partnership providing health services. The major finding of the report is that between 1990 and 1995, there was improvement by at least 5 percent on 3 indicators: infant mortality, low birthweight infants, and child death rates. There are also marked racial and county differences in several indicators. (Indicator trend data for 1980-1995 by race, and methodology information are appended.) (KDFB)

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